(c) and (d) The Ministry of Agriculture had formulated a Model Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act and circulated to all States/UTs in 2003 for making necessary amendments in their respective APMC Act for bringing efficiency in the existing marketing system and allow the private markets and development of alternative marketing channels such as direct marketing, contract farming, e-trading etc. The progress of the amendment of the State Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act is given in the Statement (*See* below).

To facilitate the implementation of amended provisions, the Ministry of Agriculture has also formulated Model APMC Rules and circulated to the States/Union Territories for adoption in November, 2007. Chapter IX of the Model APMC Rules provide provisions for Establishment and Functioning of Private Market Yard/Private Market/Private E-Market, Consumer/Farmer Market and Direct purchase. So far, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka have notified their amended APMC Rules, whereas Madhya Pradesh and Haryana have partially amended the Rules.

Statement

Progress of Reforms in Agricultural Markets (APMC Act) as on 30.11.2008

Sl. No.	Stage of Reforms	Name of States/Union Territories
1.	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done for Direct Marketing; Contract Farming and Markets in Private/Coop Sectors	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Tripura
2.	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done partially	a) Direct Marketing: NCT of Delhi b) Contract Farming: Haryana, Punjab and Chandigarh c) Private Markets: Punjab and Chandigarh
3.	States/UTs where there is no APMC Act and hence not requiring reforms	Bihar*, Kerala, Manipur, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep
4.	States/UTs where APMC Act already provides for the reforms	Tamil Nadu

* APMC Act is repealed *w.e.f.* 1.9.2006

Crop damage due to insect

1245. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rice crop in East Asia is being damaged by an insect known as the Brown Plant Hopper, which is multiplying by the billions and chewing rice paddy thus threatening diets of poor people;

(b) whether Government has examined the possibility of the insect reaching India and damaging the rice crops in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to address the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Brown Plant Hopper is an insect pest of paddy in the rice growing countries of East Asia. As per survey reports received from State Departments of Agriculture and the Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs), trace to moderate incidence of Brown Plant Hopper has been reported from isolated fields of Kerala State and moderate to severe incidence of Brown Plant Hopper has been reported from Haryana State.

(c) Experts from Government of India have already visited the affected areas in Haryana. Presently, the insect is under control. The Government of India has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the main strategy for plant protection, including paddy crop. Awareness for pest control through IPM approach is spread among the farmers under the scheme "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" through Farmers' Field Schools organized by 31 CIPMs across the country.

Agricultural technology management

†1246. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Agricultural Technology Management Agencies Scheme being conducted in the country till date along with places they are being run;

(b) the places proposed to be included under this scheme during the current financial year; and

(c) the State-wise activities performed or proposed to be performed under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The Scheme Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms (ATMA) Programme was launched during 2005-06 and aims at making the extension system farmer-driven and farmer-accountable by way of new institutional arrangement in the form of Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA). ATMA has active participation of farmers, farmer groups, NGOs, KVK, PRIs and other Stakeholders operating at the district level and below. 581 ATMAs have been established till date in 29 States and 2 UTs. The district-wise details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The scheme is proposed to be extended to all rural districts of the country. The state-wise number of districts proposed to be covered during the current financial year is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi